

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## PENNSYLVANIA MAN SENTENCED FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF A MINOR

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Brett J. Mondak**, 32, North Hampton, Pennsylvania, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge G. Thomas VanBebber to **ten years in federal prison, without parole to be followed by three years of supervised release** in addition to the 60 days he received in Johnson County District Court.

Melgren said that Mondak entered a guilty plea on May 10, 2004, to one count of sexual exploitation of a minor.

Melgren stated that Mondak admitted at his plea that in November 2002 he met a boy from Shawnee, Kansas, in a chat room on the internet and that in December 2002 he and the boy each purchased a video camera to send live video feeds to each other. Mondak further admitted that he knew that the boy was only 14 years old. Mondak also admitted that he and the boy sent sexually explicit videos to each other. Mondak also admitted that in February 2003 he traveled from Pennsylvania to Kansas to meet the boy and that he brought a digital camera, laptop, cell phone and gifts for the child. On February 14, 2003, a Shawnee, Kansas police officer saw a boy standing in front of Mize Elementary School, approached the child who indicated he was waiting for a friend, and because of poor weather conditions told the child to go home. The officer contacted the child's parents who learned from the child that Mondak had traveled from Pennsylvania to meet him, that he had met Mondak the previous day in the school parking lot, and he had been waiting for Mondak to pick him up when the officer sent him home. Shawnee, Kansas police officers arrested Mondak and during a search of his hotel room found a laptop with sexually explicit photos of the boy along with photos of other boys.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Shawnee, Kansas Police Department and the FBI in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Kim Berger in this prosecution.